Rule 11 details the procedure for filing, determination and verification of claims by the Gram Sabha. The rule states that "the Gram Sabhas shall (a) call for claims and authorize the Forest, Rights Committee to accept the claims in the Form, as provided in Annexure-I of these rules and such claims shall be made within a period of three months from the date of such calling of claims along with at least two of the evidences mentioned in rule 13, shall be made within a period of three months, provided that the Gram sabha may if consider necessary, extend such period of three months after recording the reasons thereof in writing; (b) fix a date for initiating the process of determination of its community forest resource and intimate the same to the adjoining Gram Sabhas where there are substantial overlaps, and the Sub-Divisional Level Committee."

(b) to (e) After operationalization of the Act and notification of the Rules, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs has written to all State/UT Governments on 11.1.2008 to constitute various Committees under the Act Immediately and also initiate necessary action for recognition and vesting of the forest rights in the forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers under the Act. The Ministry of Panchayati Raj has also written to the States/UTs on 15.2.2008 suggesting that the states may organize Gram Sabhas on 28.2.2008 during which the provisions of the Act and the Rules and the roles and responsibilities of PRIs , Gram Sabhas and Forest Rights Committees are explained. The requisite details sought in part (b) to (e) of the Questions are yet to be received from the State/UT Governments.

Clearing of OBC backlog

1487. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have approved a proposal to launch a special recruitment drive to fill 28,671 vacancies reserved for OBCs in 70 Central Government Ministries, Departments and PSUs;

(b) whether the Group of Ministers appointed for the purpose has recommended that unfilled OBC quota be treated as a distinct group which would be excluded while applying the ceiling of 50 per cent to determine the reserved vacancies in any year;

(c) to what extent the backlog would be cleared independently of the 22.5 per Cent 350 quota for SC/ST and 27 per cent for OBCs; and

(d) whether any time-bound programme in this regard has been drawn?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) to (d) A proposal to launch a special recruitment drive to fill up backlog vacancies is under consideration. The proposal does not affect the reservation quota prescribed for the SCs and the STs.

Implementation of reservation

1488. SHRI GANDHI AZAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether all concerned Ministries/Departments have implemented the provision